

3.2.3.2 Bicycle Routes

Figure 3-4 shows bicycle routes in North Carolina, based on data from NCDOT (NCDOT, undated). Of these routes, several North Carolina Bike Routes cross I-95. The following section describes these routes from south to north.

- The Sand Hills Sector is an unnumbered state bicycle route that crosses I-95 in southern Cumberland County on SR 2252 (Chicken Foot Road) at Exit 41.
- NC Bike Route 5 (Cape Fear Run) crosses I-95 in northeast Cumberland County on SR 1815 (Wade-Stedman Road) at Exit 61.
- NC Bike Route 7 (Ocracoke Option) crosses I-95 in southern Wilson County just north of Exit 119B on SR 1001 (Lamm Road).
- NC Bike Route 2 (Mountains to Sea Trail) crosses I-95 south of Exit 127 on SR 1313 (East Hornes Church Road) in northern Wilson County.
- NC Bike Route 4 (North Line Trace) crosses I-95 on SR 1201 (Macon Price Road), just south of Exit 180 in Northampton County.

Subsequent NEPA documentation for specific improvements to the I-95 corridor will assess whether proposed improvements accommodate state bicycle routes.

In addition to state bicycle routes, the City of Fayetteville plans to expand its local bicycle routes to include several crossings of I-95. Included are a crossing at SR 2220 (Tom Starling Road), SR 2341 (Claude Lee Road) at Exit 44, SR 2212 (Doc Bennett Road) at Exit 46A, SR 2000 (Sapona Road), and SR 1832 (Murphy Road) at Exit 55. Other non-designated bicycle routes also cross the project corridor. According to MapMyRide.com, the Bentonville-Smithfield Loop in Johnston County crosses I-95 at SR 1178 (Keen Road) at Exit 87 and at SR 107 (Brogden Road) just south of Smithfield. Also according to MapMyRide.com, several popular bicycle routes in Nash County cross I-95 at SR 1700 (Oak Level Road) south of Rocky Mount and SR 1604 (Hunter Hill Road) north of Rocky Mount. The Roanoke Canal Trail in Halifax County crosses under I-95 at the Roanoke River just north of Exit 173. It is anticipated that subsequent projects addressing specific improvements to I-95 will coordinate with local planning agencies to reach out to the cycling public and local planners on the need for bicycle accommodations on routes crossing over or under I-95.

3.2.4 Voluntary Agricultural Districts

In North Carolina, Voluntary Agricultural Districts (VADs) are established through county ordinances to promote the preservation and protection of farmland. Along the I-95 corridor, there are currently VAD ordinances in Cumberland, Harnett, Johnston, Nash, Wilson, and Northampton Counties. Based on input from county planning organizations and local agricultural extension offices, there are several VADs located within a half mile of I-95. This includes one district in Cumberland County, three each in Harnett and Northampton Counties, four in Johnston County, nine in Nash County, and two in Wilson County.

If subsequent improvements to I-95 necessitate the condemnation of lands in VADs, there are public hearing requirements that must be met prior to any acquisition of right of way. Public hearing requirements for each county are summarized below.